



CALIFORNIA GARDEN

IN THIS NUMBER

RECEPTION TO PROF. L. H. BAILEY
CASUARINAS
PRICKLY PEAR CACTUS IN
AUSTRALIA

NOVEMBER 1926

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No. 5

RECEPTION TO MR. BAILEY

RECEPTION TO PROF. BAILEY

On Tuesday evening, November sixteenth, the San Diego Floral Association will hold an informal reception at the Floral Building in honor of Prof. L. H. Bailey of Cornell University. Professor Bailey is undoubtedly the best known authority on horticulture in America today. His enormous knowledge of horticulture in all its branches has been poured out lavishly for the benefit of all, in the form of books, pamphlets, magazine articles and lectures. His "Standard Cyclopaedia of Horticulture", in its various editions, for years has been the authoritative work on its subject in America and England. Amongst his other works, most gardeners are familiar with his "Amateur's Practical Garden Book", "Garden Making", "Manual of Gardening", "The Principles of Agriculture", "The Pruning Manual", "The Principles of Fruit Growing", "Principles of Vegetable Gardening", and "Horticulturists' Rule Book."

Professor Bailey is spending a few months at La Jolla, and the members of the Floral Association and their friends are indeed to be congratulated that they are to have the honor of receiving him as a guest at the November meeting and that he has expressed his willingness to address them on that occasion. There will be music and refreshments will be served during the reception.

L. H. BAILEY

What does L. H. Bailey mean to you? President of the National Scientific Society? That is too distant and formal.

Nationally known horticulturist? Probably no other American writer has covered more diligently the field of Horticultural science or has more individual works of his credit. The best known work is that monumental one, The Cyclopaedia of Horticulture, a most valuable volume. If so, you have found a real helper.

Professor and Dean of the College of Agriculture at Cornell University (1888-1913)? If so, you have known a true educator with a rare power to establish ideals and inspire effort.

A Naturalist with a unique breadth of interest and vision? A specialist unhampered or curbed by his specialty, interested in nature and life as a whole? If so, be it, you are warm.

Have you known Mr. Bailey as an editor and writer? His own books represent a life's work not to mention many books that have passed through his editorial hands. His poems are rare pearls of philosophy depicting the lovely side of homely things as, "The quick smell of earth", "fence rails run with pleasant tears", "Weedstalks bending to pearly drops", "black wet barns", "singing sod", etc. If you are familiar with this side of Mr. Bailey, you are warmer for his writings are next best to him.

If your answer is, I know Mr. Bailey personally, you are warmest, and one to be congratulated. You are the lucky man to know the kindly smile, the merry twinkle, the quiet judgment of the man never too busy for a friendly joke or an encouraging word.

Truly we are glad that Mr. Bailey has chosen to bring Mrs. Bailey and his charming daughter to "Come over and rest" with us at La Jolla. In his own words in "The Farthest Hills" he says,

"Come over the plains to the hilltops high,
Come over, come over and rest;

Stay not on the plains where soft zephyrs lie
But come to the heights where the clouds
sweep by

And the world-round gales through the
heavens fly,

Come over, come over and rest."

ANNUAL CHRYSANTHEMUM SHOW

The annual Chrysanthemum Show was held in the Floral Building in Balboa Park, Tuesday, October 26th. This year's show drew a large attendance; and the excellence of the show well deserved the interest shown.

The important display of the day was that of Mr. Erskine J. Campbell, of Point Loma, which we feel deserves special mention. The

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fine quality of the general display prompted the suggestion—which was immediately voiced by a number of those present—that each member of the association interested in chrysanthemums should grow at least one specimen, with special attention, to be displayed at the next annual show. We feel that this suggestion is worthy of mention, and it is passed on to the readers of the Garden.

A very enjoyable time was had around the refreshment table, where the house committee was kept busy dispensing its hospitality.

The following is a list of entries receiving prize ribbons:

General Display Class I

Mrs. Erskine J. Campbell., 1st prize and special.

Display of Show Type Class II

Mrs. David H. O. Herbrun, 1st prize.

Display of Garden Type Class III

Mrs. Jennie Owens, 1st prize.

Display of Pompons Class IV

Mrs. Jennie Owens, 1st prize.

Best Arranged Bowl or Vase Class V

Mrs. Strahlmann, 1st prize.

Best Arranged Basket Class VI

Mrs. Jennie Owens, 1st prize.

A. S. HILL, Secretary.

REGULAR MEETING

Quite a good crowd attended the regular monthly meeting of the association held in the Floral Building in Balboa Park Tuesday

evening, October 19th. In the absence of president, Mrs. Mary A. Greer, the meeting was ably conducted by the vice-president, Mr. Walter Birch.

The chairman emphasized the value of the regular meetings of the association and of the information to be had through the columns of the California Garden; and stated that the editor, Mr. Robert R. McLean, would gladly answer questions through the magazine.

Special mention was made by the chair of the annual chrysanthemum show to be held on October 26th, at which—among other interesting exhibits—would be that of Mr. Erskine J. Campbell of Pt. Loma.

Mr. Walter S. Merrill then offered the following resolution, which being seconded by Mr. F. L. Hieatt, was put before the meeting and carried:

“BE IT RESOLVED, by the San Diego Floral Association, that this Association does, by this resolution, go on record as opposed to granting land in Balboa Park as a site for the State College, or for any other purpose; and

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be spread upon the minutes of this meeting and published in the November issue of the “California Garden.”

Miss Kate O. Sessions then entertained the meeting in her happy style—her subject being “California’s Native Trees, Shrubs and Flowers.” There are few better qualified, either by experience or love of nature, to speak on this subject than Miss Sessions, who has devoted much of her time to the study of wild plants and flowers.

In her talk she mentioned particularly all the native flora of California, with helpful advice as to the best methods of culture. Most of the wild plants and shrubs grow with little or no attention; but should be well watered in winter and have but little water during the summer months. For that reason, she advises that they be put in some part of the yard or garden where they will not suffer from the watering given other plants.

She feels, as we all do that more attention should be given to protection of wild plant life; and deprecated the careless way in which nature’s own plants and flowers are treated by the traveling public.

Mr. Guy Fleming then presented a collection of paintings of plants by Mr. A. D. Valentein, the noted painter of plant life. These paintings are probably the finest collection of the kind in existence and are the property of Miss Ellen Scripps of La Jolla, whose generosity in allowing them to be presented to the association gave great pleasure to the meeting. They are doubly valuable on account of death of the artist, about a year ago. Mr. Fleming gave a short talk on each painting as he presented it.

A. S. HILL, Secretary.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

THE CASUARINA

By K. O. Sessions.

The Casuarina trees as growing on the Hawaiian Islands are very interesting and attractive but many of the long rows are quite old, 25 to 50 years and over, and it does take time for a tree old enough and large enough to show its strong characteristics and its individuality. Casuarina Stricta has a fine thread-like foliage and bears small and pretty little cone-like seed pods. Casuarina Equisetifolia (horse-tail foliage) has coarse, very drooping and grayish-green foliage and larger seed pods, about the size of a small walnut. The U. S. government highly praises the Casuarina Cunninghamiana and says all reports prove it to be a very fine tree. There are a few plants of this sort here now, but only as young specimens. Casuarina Stricta lends itself to a frequent trimming, or rather a nipping back quite severely of all lateral branches and this constant nipping when the tree is young makes it grow tall and it takes on an individuality that does not resemble a trimmed or sheared tree. The best specimen of it is in the front garden of Mrs. Herbert Evans at Randolph and Plumosa Way. The tree is only four years old and is higher than the house and about 3½ feet in diameter, a real needle-like tree. At the rear of this residence is another tree of the same variety about 4 years old that has never been trimmed. In Balboa Park opposite Quince street, on the west boulevard and to the northeast of it, is a group of Casuarinas, both the Stricta and Equisetifolia. At Chula Vista the lane leading to the residence of Miss Brundred and Miss Tenney is bordered with the C. Stricta and it looks well but more severe pruning constantly would have made the avenue more distinctive. The new street planting at Braemar at Pacific Beach has been done with this same tree and a street at Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, now ten years old, is a decided success. As you pass off the Coronado ferry the group of trees to the left are the C. Equisetifolia. This is the coarsest in appearance and the least desirable for ornament, but it thrives on barren sands and salt sprayed coral rocks. C. Stricta also grows well close to the sea. C. Cunninghamiana is probably the most important of the genus. Maiden's "Studies in Australian trees," refer to it as one of the tallest, thickest, fastest growing, most useful and noble trees of the forest. Its timber ranks high for fuel and more especially as construction lumber, since it checks less than its relatives. E. O. Opert writes from Santa Barbara, Calif., where the plants have endured 25 degrees Far., as probably the best of Casuarinas.

Paul Popenoe of Coachella, Calif., reports that these trees have withstood excessive

heat, drought, wind, and temperatures of 25 degrees Far. His verdict is, "They are a real acquisition for this desert country."

From San Diego, Calif., comes the report of C. P. Barrows who says, "The tree has done remarkably well and I think much of it. The soil is not deep and quite stony, yet the tree has found a rooting."

Will some one report Mr. Barrows' address.

A DESIRABLE VINE—THE SKY FLOWER

Thunbergia grandiflora is an excellent and choice evergreen vine of very rapid growth, blooming profusely all summer and fall with its large lavender-blue flowers. The strong shoots are very brittle and necessitate careful training from the first, in order to keep a good framework to trim back to. If frosted it sprouts readily.

Mrs. S. C. Payson of Loma Portal has a fine specimen on the east side of her residence. Another is on the east side of Miss Ellen Scripps' lath house at La Jolla. An old vine is in the enclosed and covered patio of the Timken residence at Fourth and Walnut streets, and another three-year-old plant in my residence garden. The coloring is so choice and foliage so individual and the plant such a strong grower that it should be more generally cultivated. It is grown from cuttings.

KATE O. SESSIONS.

THE AGE OF THE EDINBURGH BOTANICAL GARDEN

It is both interesting and very encouraging to know that although the Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh grew from a very small Physic garden established about 1700, but not until about 1883 was it opened to the public. Alexander Dickson was its Regius Keeper (R.K.) and following his death in 1887 Sir Isaac Bayley Balfour served from 1888 until 1922, and William Wright Smith is now the R. K. of the garden. Its present extended development as a center of Botanical and Horticultural research and institution was established during Sir Balfour's term of office. To realize that this fine garden has developed during the past 40 years, principally during the last 30 years, makes one eager to have a real botanic garden in Southern California where climatic conditions are so favorable. San Diego, however, has an opportunity for the best cactus garden in Balboa Park and the sooner it is started the sooner will we be able to enjoy it and it will help to advertise our park and our city. Will it not be possible to organize a Cactus Club that will encourage and begin such a project?

KATE O. SESSIONS.

BEAUTIFUL CORREAS

By Harry Johnson

The Correas are seldom seen in our gardens and while not striking have a quality of refined elegance lacking in more garish rivals. They are charming in their retiring beauty seeming to court no attention yet drawing one to them by their exquisite coloration and dainty habit. I have seen but two species in California though there are seven species recorded all native to the milder regions of Australia and probably all hardy in our citrus belts. The description of some lead one to believe that the best are yet to be added to our local gardens. Some of them have been grown for many years under glass in Europe though perhaps today they are very rare since the present taste is for the more softwooded tropical plants.

The two species known here are *Correa bicolor* (*C. speciosa* var.?) and *C. alba*. Of the two *C. bicolor* is rather the more charming. The plant forms a divaricate bush two to four feet high, open, the branches well clothed with small, ovate, leathery, deep green leaves. The squarrose under surface of the opposite leaves is white-green the veins lined with brown. The stems are also covered with this brown scurf. To the observant this would give an immediate clue to the edaphic conditions under which the plant grew wild in Australia. Botanies tell us that they are native to sandy, dry plains and some such story we may read from leaf and habit. However, if we compare them with our native chaparral we may see that our wild shrubs are used to far harsher and less friendly conditions.

The flowers are borne singly at the tips of the short lateral branches though the terminal clusters are cymose, the whole plant thus being covered with blossoms. The individual flowers are an inch and a quarter long, tubular, the four segments recurving at the tip. The corolla, emerging from a shallow brown cap, is of great substance, the surface having a velvety appearance toning the color to the elegance of a Japanese print. Under the microscope the velvet resolves into an inter-lacing tangle of many-rayed, stellate hairs. From the throat protrude the eight anther-tipped filaments. The base of the corolla is rose-red shading to soft silvery green at the tips and faintly dotted with brown. The inside of the corolla is silvery green flushed with red in the throat.

C. alba is rather similar in habit though the branches are more inclined to be clustered. The leaves are oval in outline, deep green above, silvery beneath, bracketing the flowers. The white blossoms are open, three-quarter inches across, the four recurving

petals being free to the base the stamens hardly exerted. They are borne in cymose clusters of from three to five at the tips of clustered branchlets and never singly as in *C. bicolor*. In appearance they are much like orange blossoms.

The Correas belong to the great family Rutaceae and are peculiar in sometimes having a sympetalous corolla the rest of the family having the petals separate. The Correas are related closely to *Boronia* which is also grown in California and less so to *Dicamnus*, *Calodendron*, *Diosma* and the homely rue. Belonging to the same family is the Hop Tree of New England gardens, the fragrant *Choisya* and *Murraya* and all our citrus fruits.

Their culture presents no difficulties the main factors being an open, friable loam well drained, a moderate amount of moisture and a sunny exposure. They do well near Pasadena and grow to perfection in the gardens of Mr. Evans at Santa Monica. They root easily from cuttings.

October 27, 1926.

THE JAPANESE BEETLE

California gardeners are sometimes inclined to think that their gardens support delegations of most of the plant pests in existence. While it is admitted that they are occasionally numerous and demand suitable attention, it is nevertheless true that California has fewer of the major garden enemies than any other section of the country.

One of the worst floral and agricultural pests known, the Japanese beetle, is now firmly established in portions of New Jersey Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland and Connecticut, and it is only a question of time when it will be distributed throughout all the eastern and middle western states. California plant quarantine men, it may be said, are using every precaution to prevent it from invading this state.

Indicating how numerous these beetles may become when they are once established, as high as 1500 larvae to the square yard of lawn sod have been found in the east. From an orchard of 156 ten-year-old Redbird peach trees 13 sixteen gallon tubsful of beetles were shaken early one morning in less than 2 hours. The next morning they were as numerous on the trees as before.

Samuel Newman Baxter, in a late number of the Florists Exchange, recounts some interesting first hand experiences with this beetle. They are reproduced here in part, so that California Garden readers may understand what they will have to contend with should the quarantine laws not be upheld and this pest becomes established in the state.

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The Nov. and Dec. Gardens

GARDEN REMINDERS

By Mary Matthews

The planting of trees, shrubs and also of perennials can still be carried on this month. In planting trees and shrubs see that the hole is dug deeply and is large enough to take the roots without cramping, also give ample watering at the time of setting out. The ground is very dry now and everything is crying out for water, so see that nothing is neglected on this score. If you have any ground not in use at this time that you will need later give it a thorough soaking, then, when dried out, turn it all over with the fork and leave it in the rough until wanted later in the season.

If you made a planting of stocks last month do it also this month. This will give you a long season of bloom. "Beauty of Nice" for early blooms and "Cut and Come Again" for later flowers. Also at this time put in seeds of the perennial *Coreopsis*, if you have not had the double flowered, try it; also try the Chinese larkspur, *Blue Butterfly*. This lasts several seasons but blooms the first year from seed. Take up the *Dahlia* and *Gladiolus* bulbs that have bloomed during the summer. The tree *Dahlias* are just coming into bloom. If you do not chance to have them, make a note of it and put some in next spring; they are well worth while in the flower garden.

You can now put back some of those *Gladiolus* bulbs that were lifted earlier in the season. Here in our climate Glads are almost a continuous performance. Spanish Iris and their Dutch hybrids are an early planting bulb, so if you can, get them in not later than this month. Where we have to wait so long for our winter rains bulbs can be planted much later in the season than elsewhere, so if you can secure good bulbs take a chance as they may be very scarce next Season.

This is a very favorable month for planting Iris of the beardless group. This includes all the *Spuria* group, such as the tall growing *ochroleuca* also *monlini* and *aurea yellow*—and the beautiful *Mrs. Tait* with brilliant blue flowers they will all do well in any garden where they are well watered. Along with these I like the *Hemerocallis* or old-fashioned *Lemon Lilies*. These come now in all shades of yellow and orange, are most of them fragrant and like the *Agapanthus* with us can be divided and reset most any time—they have thick fibrous roots, prefer a good, moist garden soil and to be planted in par-

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THE GARDEN

By Walter Birch.

Broad Windsor Beans and Canadian Wonder Beans are good for winter production, the former, which is a large shell bean, and very good when served with parsley and butter, is particularly adapted for winter growing.

Plant onion seed and sets, radish, lettuce, cauliflower and cabbage, carrots, beets, etc., and set out your rhubarb patch and strawberry bed. Manure liberally for both rhubarb and strawberries. Set the former about three feet apart, and the strawberries in rows one foot apart, rows two feet apart. Giant Crimson Winter Rhubarb is O. K. and Improved Klondyke Strawberries will give you satisfactory berries.

In the flower garden remember that the sweet pea planting season is just about at its best. Planting now, you avoid the late summer heat that is usually so hard on young sweet peas, and by using the early flowering *Spencers*, which are good for planting until well into January, you can have blooms in that month, and continuing for four or five months, if you keep the flowers picked and take care of the plants.

The same remarks apply very generally to most of the seasonable bulbs at this time, many of which are all the better for not having the first tender growth exposed to the hotter sun of late summer.

For a gorgeous display of early spring flowers the tulip probably heads the list of bulbs for planting at this time and later. The rich bright colors are admired by all and well. The Darwin Tulips are the largest and they not only make a wonderful show in the garden but are excellent for cutting as stemmed and come in very beautiful colors. Although tulips will stand considerable sun the ideal situation is where the sun breaks through. In light soil plant to a depth of 5 or 6 inches, and in heavy soil 4 to 5. If you did not manure your ground in September, do not use manure now. Use two or three handfuls of peat humus and a handful of bone meal mixed and placed below the bulb. On heavy adobe ground a generous application of gypsum will be beneficial to the bulbs and help to break up the ground.

Hyacinths with their delicious fragrance and different coloring to most other bulbous plants should be planted now. Plant in pro-

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The California Garden

Editor
R. R. McLean
Associate Editors
Miss Mary Matthews
Alfred D. Robinson

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EDITORIAL

NATIVES—Those fortunate enough to be present at the November meeting of the Floral Association heard Miss K. O. Sessions give an exceptionally interesting account of the native trees and shrubs of California, with particular reference to those suitable for planting in and around San Diego. Only a Californian, as the editor more or less modestly acknowledges himself to be, can fully appreciate and understand the sentimental and practical appeal of our native plants, and only a Californian, as is Miss Sessions also, can properly interpret these plants to others.

Many of our plant immigrants are wonderful acquisitions and for these and for what they have done for us, we are profoundly grateful, but to one who has known and loved our native trees, shrubs and flowers from childhood up, no others can quite take their places. It is to be regretted that more general use has not been made in California of native plants and that we have thought it necessary or even desirable to use so many aliens, beautiful as many of them are. They have done much for us, but after all would we not have done better to have planted more natives and fewer immigrants?

MONUMENTS—Incidental to her subject, Miss Sessions had occasion to refer to a number of specific plantings she had made from time to time in years gone by. All over the

older portions of San Diego are trees planted by Miss Sessions, trees that will be a living joy and inspiration to San Diegans long after this generation has gone. What finer monument can one have than living trees? The editor would rather be remembered by one beautiful tree that it was known he had planted, than by all the stone monuments and mausoleums in California.

ROSES—Next month we hope to have some live articles on roses, how to plant, grow and care for them. Mr. Forrest L. Heatt will be one of the contributors. A preliminary word of admonition is given by Mr. Heatt through the editor at this time, this being not to prune roses until January.

Our old friend, Mr. E. Benard, an acknowledged authority on rose culture, we hope will contribute an article on new varieties.

NURSERY CATALOGS—Fictional works of seed houses and nurserymen, as A. D. Robinson describes them. But like all good works of fiction they have a wide circulation and are carefully read, not once but many times. On the other hand, unlike works of fiction, they cost nothing, at least to begin with.

Nothing in the catalog- or fictional-line is more fascinating to the editor than some of our California nursery publications containing, as many of them do, well written descriptions and beautiful illustrations of fruits, ornamental shrubs, trees and flowers. Some of our catalogs are works of art, nothing less. There seems to be an urge within most of us to plant things, and we do get a lot of pleasure in watching, if not in helping, them grow. Perhaps this is why we like nursery catalogs.

All this is preliminary to inquiring if California Garden readers have ordered their 1927 catalogs.

THE "MUMMY PEA"

I was interested in the note of Captain Saunders about the "Mummy Pea", which appears from time to time in the papers as having retained for 2,000 or 3,000 years its germinative power. Mr. de Candolle proved the inanity of such pretensions, and told us the Egyptians raise these seeds in their fields and sell them to the tourists as having been found in the mummies. Some years ago an English lady brought me some from Egypt and told me she saw the mummy in which they were found. The seeds gave us the common *Pisum elatius*, which Boissier, in "Flora Orientalis," Vol. II, p. 623, gives as wild all over the Orient. The flowers were different in color from those of the common one, being of an exquisite azure-blue and pink, something like *Omphalodes* *Lucillae*. It may be it is an Egyptian form of the common *Pisum elatius*.—Henry Correvon.

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PRICKLY PEAR CACTUS IN AUSTRALIA

By R. R. McLean.

An announcement of more than ordinary interest was made in the daily papers a few weeks ago. It was to the effect that bacteria had been discovered with which it was expected to eliminate prickly pear cactus (*Opuntia*) from Australia within 10 years. The bacteria in question, it is reported, first cause small brown spots to appear on the plants, which spread rapidly and from plant to plant, finally resulting in their death and decay. This discovery, presuming it to be authentic, follows a search which has been going on for years for insect and other enemies of certain species of cacti in Australia.

The story of the cactus invasion of Australia is not only exceptionally interesting but points a moral. The basis for the moral is that whenever plants or animals, which classification includes insects, are removed from their hereditary or natural environment and transplanted or colonized elsewhere, the so-called balance maintained by nature in their original habitat is upset and evil results may follow, particularly if the importation is made by unscientific persons without proper regulation. The cottony cushion scale, a comparatively unimportant insect in its native home, Australia, became a devastating scourge when accidentally introduced into the citrus groves of California. Johnson grass is a valuable forage plant in the southern states, but brought into California, where climatic, agricultural and soil conditions are radically different, it invaded irrigated fields, water ditches and bottom lands, becoming a state wide weed pest of first importance. These instances might be multiplied many times over.

Certain species of cacti were introduced into Australia several years ago, presumably for economic experimentation, although possibly by accident. Instead of behaving as they do in the arid and semi-arid sections of this country they almost immediately became an escape and spread with astonishing rapidity. In a very few years they became national pests and many plans, all of them ineffectual in practice, were devised to check their spread. It is said that up to last year (figures for 1926 not being available) the infestation had extended over some 50,000 square miles, an area considerably larger than the state of Ohio, in Queensland and New South Wales, and was proceeding at the rate of a million or more acres per year. The rainfall in this area ranges from 20 to 40 inches annually, and not only are the bare open lands taken by the cacti but open forest lands as well. Birds and other animals, also flood waters, are important in the dissemination of the seeds. Land values in the infested areas have been very materially reduced.

In California the sections suitable climatically for cacti have a very low rainfall and comparatively poor soil. Although cactus will thrive with less soil moisture and in poorer soils, apparently, than almost any other plant, yet given certain ideal temperatures, soil and moisture conditions, its growth will be rather rapid. This is apparently what has happened in Australia. Under California conditions certain species do not fruit as freely as they do in Australia and this in itself has an important bearing upon the rapidity of spread. Cactus fruits very freely in Australia and the seeds are rapidly and widely disseminated by birds. As indicated in the suggestion of an upsetting of the balance nature maintains, cactus has been common in the American southwest for centuries. During that period nature has evolved methods of holding it in check, partly by means of insects, partly by fungi and partly by climatic inhibitions. In Australia these checks have been largely removed and the result is somewhat astounding.

The Australian government has tried every known means of eradication and has even had emissaries search every corner of North and South America for natural enemies of cactus that might promise some relief. A representative of that government visited San Diego a year ago on this mission and at that time in a conversation with the writer freely confirmed reports of the seriousness of the situation. Many species of cactus destroying insects and fungi have been sent to Australia from Texas and California, but with the exception of a cochineal insect from Ceylon which attacks and destroys one species of prickly pear only, very little progress had been made until the reported discovery of bacteria, as outlined in the beginning of this article.

MEN OR BUGS?

Dr. L. O. Howard, chief of the bureau of entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture, said in a recent address which he gave before the American Association for the advancement of Science. "If human beings are to continue to exist they must first gain mastery over insects. Life may develop into a struggle between man and insects for the mastery of the earth. Insects in this country continually nullify the labor of 1,000,000 men. Insects are better equipped to occupy the earth than are humans, having been on the earth for 50,000,000 years, while the human race is but 500,000 years old."

THE JAPANESE BEETLE

(Continued from Page 4)

"In Philidelpha recently, when the 1926 Japanese Beetle invasion was at its height, specimens of this comparatively new invader of orchards, flower gradens and farm crops were so plentiful that it was a common occurrence to see them lodged on the hats and clothing of the passerby in the downtown business section. On some streets they flitted about like flies after a garbage wagon and were sought by city youngsters as a new bug. All this in sections where there was little or no vegetation, the beetles having been wafted across the Delaware River from New Jersey, or brought over on produce to the commission markets. (The silk on the end of corn ears is a favorite feeding ground.) They seemed to select red hot days, when the thermometer was in the 90's, for their incursions and alarming demonstrations of their ravenous appetite for foliage, fruit and flowers."

"Our personal experience, some five miles out from the city, was to find the beetles, like a swarm of bees, lodged in and devouring an Ampelopsis heterophylla (it also loves the Virginia Creeper) which had been growing over an old tree stump. The "queen" beetle must have been present in this "swarm", or else the vine was a choice tidbit, for vegetation immediately surrounding it was free from invasion. We immediately sprayed the vine with coated arsenate of lead, applying it gently in a fine mist so that the beetles would remain to partake of it. But we decided not to await the result of strategy for the beetles were so numerous that we could not resist hand-picking them. We gathered one pint of beetles (500?) in a milk bottle from this vine alone. Incidentally, this hand method, though tedious, is recommended in the small garden. The beetles are most accommodating, for they drop to the ground or take a downward fight upon being disturbed; this makes quite easy their capture in a container of kerosene held beneath them. The new growth of this vine has since died from the results of the severe infestation; the beetles having destroyed the tender shoots and flowers, we must forego for this season, the Autumn display of Blueberries."

"Host plants of the beetle are numerous but we have found the Elm, Linden, Horsechestnut, Cherry and Plane the favorite trees. The foliage and fruit of Apple and Grape are eaten. Rose blooms are destroyed as by the Rose bug, in addition to the foliage; as are Hollyhocks and Cannas. The favorite flower garden plant is the Evening Primrose (Oenothera). But the complete list is long and we would prefer that readers consult the Government bulletins regarding it."

LETTER FROM ENGLAND

80 Osborne Road,
West Hartlepool,
September 17, 1926.

To the Readers of California Garden".

The receipt of this month's number of our paper reminds me that I must drop you a line. Well, we have had a glorious summer for this part of the globe. Everything in our gardens has done remarkably well. Vegetables have been good, but flowers have passed all expectations. Dahlias have been magnificent. I raised some seeds kindly sent by your late editor and was rewarded with two particularly fine plants of decorative dahlias of a lovely dark helio color, nice refined petals and a good shape. But I think the asters this year have beaten all records, particularly the "California Giants". This seed also came from the same source as the dahlias. Some of the blooms were so large and heavy we had to stake them to prevent them being broken by the wind. They were like huge chrysanthemums. I often wonder how large they were with you in San Diego, with your beautiful climate. Every flowering mums are full of bud and promise a grand show, if only the early frosts are not too severe. It is getting "nippy" in the mornings now, so we shall have to be very wary. We are busy getting our greenhouses ready for housing the late mums. We cannot leave them out much longer. I have had a delightful holiday this year visiting the floral farms and nurseries in Holland and Belgium. It was a great treat to us to see the acres and acres of dahlias, roses, gladiolus and asters. Mile after mile as you pass in the train you see nothing but one blaze of color. The soil of these countries suits floriculture exceedingly well, being a fine sandy loam, and they use huge quantities of cow manure to conserve moisture. Being on the warm side of the North Sea they get it very much warmer than we, and have to resort to irrigation as well. The towns of Belgium are all beautifully laid out. There are plenty of large open spaces with a magnificent statue or monument in the center and these are all surrounded with huge quantities of flowers in permanent beds. Geraniums, begonias and fuschias being very prominent. I hope your fall show has been a great success and that you will rally round your "New Editor" and extend to him the same helping hand that you have done in the past. With kind regards to all.

Yours sincerely,

W. C. KING.

GARDEN REMINDERS

(Continued from Page 5)

tial shade. They, if well cared for, give blooms practically all season.

Because the days are growing shorter and cooler do not let up on the campaign for pests—the snails, slugs and ants are still with us.

Patronize the Garden Advertisers.

STRAY THOUGHTS

By P. D. Barnhart.

Hedychiums: Three species of them grow in Southern California gardens. Tropical plants, of the Ginger plant tribe, they are not appreciated as greatly as their merits warrant.

Hedychium coronarium—known as Garland Flower for a common name. It seems necessary to the perfect peace of mind of some folks that the flowers they grow should have an English common name. Certainly the word "garland" does not fit the appearance of the flowers of this gem, since they are borne in terminal, club-like clusters, and never more than three open at one time. Of the purest white, and of the most delightful fragrance, they appeal to the sense of sight and smell to all lovers of plant life. They also have an economic value, worthy the consideration of all good cooks. The flowers impart to food, when they are crooked with it, an exquisite aroma not not easily described, and the roots if sliced and boiled with soup give it a rich, aromatic flavor.

The most spectacular of the three species is **Gardnerianum**. The flowers are golden yellow, with long scarlet stamens and anthers protruding. Moreover they are borne in a great cylindrical cluster, a hundred of them open at a time, and in contradistinction to those of **Coronarium** are malodorous, beautiful to look at, but one does not want to put his nose among them the second time.

The third species is known as **Flavum**, and as the name suggests the flowers are cream colored, borne in a club shaped head, three or four at a time.

All three species are easily grown. If fed and watered liberally they increase rapidly by stolons on top of the ground and bloom all summer; the flowers appear in terminal clusters on the new growth, which should be cut off at the crown as soon as the flowers fade.

Agave Shawii is a species that I recently met with on the coast of Mexico. I wonder why it never has been introduced to our gardens. The foliage, unlike the foliage of **A. Americanum**, is broad and obtuse, and the flower stalk is a thing of beauty because of its delicate pink color. The inflorescence is cone shaped, the flowers appearing from beneath the bracts a few at a time. Eventually, the stem on which they grow comes forth and grows to about a foot long. There, in its native habitat, it begins to bloom the first of November, a thing of beauty and a joy forever to anyone whose good fortune it is to see it at that season of the year, when all surrounding landscape is seer and brown.

GRAY GOOSE SAYS

Oh, that mine enemy would write a book! If Job could have sent his adversary to the Sandwich Islands he might have had his wish. It is said everyone who goes there either writes a book, tries to write a book, or wants to write a book. Although well furnished with quills, being constitutionally pen shy and no a-b-c- box to play on, my book remains an airy nothing without a habitation or a name.

Who! whoa there, pick up that pen and trot along this page; for I am impelled to tell of something I saw in Honolulu which we ought to have here.

Much color in street parkings. Long borders of red hibiscus. Rows of white and pink oleanders and yellow broom. They grow quite as tall and blossom as freely here as in the Islands. Perhaps the yellow, pink and red cassias or shower trees, and the ponciana that helped make the streets so vivid there would not do well for lack of rain. Yet we have blue Jacaranda, lilac tree, red eucalyptus, crepe myrtle and many more that could brighten our highways.

I am tired of somber black acacia and aggressive palms. Most palms belong in parks. On wide avenues, between mansions with prim gardens, tall palms in parking add dignity and stateliness. But along the little streets, where tiny lawns smile at each other any tiny cottages sit gossiping across the hedge let us have large bushes or small trees that bear an abundance of colorful bloom.

E. S. RYAN.

BLUE HYDRANGEAS

I have again just returned from a visit to the nurseries and floral farms of Belgium, where the above plant is grown to perfection. I always make a point of visiting "Kiel" Cemetery, just outside Antwerp. This place is noted for its beautiful statues and monuments, but mostly for its huge bushes of Hydrangeas, all of which are of a most lovely blue color. One bush in particular is very fresh in my memory. It stands on the grave of one of Antwerp's great men of bygone days, and when I saw it last August it was weighed down with huge heads of lovely bloom of a beautiful true blue, just as I saw it 20 years ago. I have seen it several times since and the color has never changed. Seeing that these plants have kept their color for so many years, and all the relatives departed and no one left to "doctor" them with anything, I think, proves that there is a true blue variety in existence.—W. C. King.

SHOW AND SALE OF CHRISTMAS WREATHS

On the afternoon of Tuesday, December fourteenth there will be held in the Floral Building a Show and Sale of Christmas greens and wreaths. The primary object of this sale is to show the members how use can be made of other greens and berries than those of our fast disappearing California Holly, *Toyon* or *Heteromeles arbutifolia*. There is legislation against cutting greens or berries from this bush, but there are many who, through ignorance or maliciousness, continue to mutilate the few trees left in San Diego county. There are numerous other shrubs which can be utilized for our holiday decorations, and it is hoped that many members will exhibit wreaths and sprays of green suitable for such a purpose. Ribbons will be offered for the handsomest large wreath (18" to 24") in diameter, the handsomest small wreath (12" to 18"), the handsomest spray of green, the handsomest spray of bright colored leaves, and the best spray of berries. After the show, all entries, with their owner's permission, will be sold, the proceeds going to the library fund. This should be an excellent opportunity for purchasing holiday decorations and for aiding at the same time a worthy cause.

SAN DIEGO WEATHER DURING NOVEMBER

Dean Blake.

To many, November weather is the most enjoyable of all the months. The air during the day is clear and invigorating; at night cool and conducive to refreshing sleep. The humidity is at low ebb, and the sunshine at a maximum. Like September and October, November experiences an occasional land breeze of excessive dryness and heat, but these visitations average but once during the month each year, and many Novembers pass without their appearance. Only four days with rain may be expected, and strong winds are quite uncommon. During the colder years, light or heavy frost has been observed in the city, while back from the coast even killing frost is apt to form, especially during the last decade of days.

From Weather Bureau records we find that the mean temperature for the month is 60 degrees; the mean maximum, 68; the mean minimum 51. The highest point ever reached by the thermometer was 93; the lowest 36. As much as 3.38 inches of rain has fallen in the city, but 5 Novembers have yielded no rain at all. The average relative humidity is 70 per cent; the average sunshine, 77 per cent.

OLD-FASHIONED RECIPE FOR ROSE JAR

I have just discovered one of the most delightful old-fashioned recipes for making a Rose Jar. It is so detailed and definite that it is refreshing just to read it.

"Gather the Roses on a fair clear morning, after the dews are dry. Take them into the spare chamber, on the floor of which fresh linen sheets have been spread. Crumble the petals gently from the hearts of the Roses, and sprinkle the sheets thickly with them.

"Open the window toward the sun until evening. The next day the leaves will be so withered that what filled two sheets may now be spread on one, and fresh-gathered leaves may be strewn on the empty spaces. On the third morning the leaves will be still more dried, so that you may gather up the first day's Roses, and place them in an empty basket.

"Stir occasionally, and every day add to them the leaves dried to the proper texture.

"When all are dried prepare a bowl of sweet spices, which shall contain small bits of Cinnamon and buds of Allspice, Cloves and Cassia, bruised. Add a Tonka Bean, cut into fine shreds, and much violet-smelling orris root grated.

"A grain of musk is liked by some, and amid so many divine perfumes, is not obtrusive. Of handful of Lavender be not sparing, nor of the sweet leaves of the Rose Geranium, and of dried sprigs of Citronella as much as you may.

"Now into your jars place Rose leaves and spices alternately, until they are lightly full. Put on the covers, which are to be removed when the room needs refreshing."

Such a mixed potpourri in an old Chinese jar or French urn would be too lovely for words.—Grace Ghent Dean, in the Flower Grower.

ETIOGONUM UMBELLATUM

This interesting and fascinating plant is well worth its place in the rock garden. It is a dwarf shrub with small oblong leaves which have a silvery reverse. The flowers are of a creamy-white, which change to a beautiful pink with age. These are borne in flat-topped clusters on stems from 6 inches to 9 inches high. This *Eriogonum* loves a well-drained sunny position with plenty of small stones about the roots. Its home is in the Rocky Mountains, where it covers barren rocky slopes at an altitude of 6,000 feet and upwards. *E. ovalifolium* and *E. androsaceum* are also very beautiful, the latter a dwarf form only 3 inches high. They are of the Buckwheat family.—R. Moore, Thorpe Hall.

ARRANGING FLOWERS

The artistic arrangement and display of cut flowers are perhaps, the most neglected phase of the horticultural profession. It is not sufficient merely to excel in the culture of flowers; it is essential that we cultivate the taste to display them to the best advantage. As one looks over the vases of a hundred wonderful Roses or a hundred beautiful Carnations one realizes the remarkable possibilities, were they arranged with a view to effect rather than being simply a representation of quality and perfection of culture.

It is impossible to lay down any hard-and-fast rules on the principle of flower arrangement. Natural ability, a love of Nature, and keen interest in the work will achieve the finest results, and with such an assortment of vases, bowls, baskets, and other receptacles as is now to be had, there is unlimited scope for one's skill. Pottery, which is obtainable in various shapes, colors and designs, makes the most popular and adaptable receptacle, provided the colors are not so glaring that they detract from the flowers. The flowers and not the vase should dominate. Whether a simple vase or an elaborate creation is contemplated, it is essential to have a definite idea in mind and to picture in one's imagination the finished product. The flowers should be approximately one-and-a-half times the height of the the receptacle, though the stems should vary in length in order to avoid an "equal-ranging" or a "sheared-off" effect. Arrangements, in which there is but one kind of flowers used, give a much more natural and pleasing effect if a few buds and half-open flowers are placed with full blooms.

When arranging flowers in combination, color harmony should be the first consideration, whether it be harmony of contrast, harmony of analogy, complementary harmony, or dominant harmony. In a harmony of contrast, such as red and white, or in a complementary harmony, such as yellow and blue, one of the two colors should be predominant in order to give character to the arrangement. Different tones of the same color constitute a dominant harmony and, when these tones are used in the proper proportion, a very delightful combination results. The best effects are obtained by using the pale tone as the tertiary line or base of the arrangement, the bright tone as the secondary line, and the medium tone as the principal or outer line. The bright tone should be employed sparingly and, if very bright, should be subdued.

Flower-baskets in their various characters provide unlimited opportunities for the practice of the floral art. The principal fault lies in the fact that they are usually overdone;

the flowers protrude beyond the handle, over the sides of the basket, and the whole arrangement is spoiled. The lines of the basket ought not to be hidden—in fact, they should be accentuated. Some baskets, owing to their broad bases, are difficult to make up, but this may be overcome by packing the container with common Fern or a few sprigs of Evergreens, which will tend to hold the flowers in place.

Bowls in their numerous types and colors are most popular for dinner table decoration. They are more serviceable and more appropriate for this particular purpose than any other receptacles. It should always be borne in mind that flowers on the dinner table should not detract from the dinner itself, and they should never be so profuse as to interfere with the proper serving of the meal. While the high center piece with small corner vases is still quite popular at exhibitions, it is really too elaborate for the home. In arranging this form of floral decoration great care should be taken that the flowers do not overhang and obstruct the line of vision across the table—Wm. G. Ellis in *Gardener's Chronicle of America*.

FLOWERING SHRUBS

This is a suitable season to propagate flowering shrubs by means of cuttings. Cuttings may be taken from well-ripened wood. There are two methods, namely:—(1) Heel-cuttings, and (2) tip-cuttings. For heel-cuttings one should select short, sturdy growths, simply torn off gently so as to leave a natural "heel". Insert these cuttings in good loamy soil (three parts), with finely-sifted leaf mould (one part) and silver sand (one part), in suitable flower pots. This compost should be well moistened some hours before use, so as to be neither too moist nor too dry, when used. The depth to which the cuttings are inserted varies with the length of the cutting, and should be just sufficient to hold the same firmly in position. The cuttings are best placed close up against the side of the flower pot (five to a 6-inch pot), the soil being carefully firmed. Tip-cuttings are dealt with in much the same way, the only difference being that the cuttings, from 3 inches to 4 inches long, are taken from the tips of selected branches or twigs and neatly cut with a sharp knife just below a joint. Common sense will dictate the after-treatment. Mild heat is necessary to establish some, while the protection of a cold frame or greenhouse is sufficient for others.—E. A. Saunders.

LATH HOUSE MATTERS

By Alfred D. Robinson.

Now comes the time of the great illusion, not the illusion of matter that so disturbs the occultists, but the Rain. This, our pet illusion has been fostered and built up to a large thing, nurtured by the amazing titles heading our press remarks when moisture has fallen from the clouds. I refer to such as "Ground gets a thorough soaking", "Crops assured", "Million dollar drops of moisture," etc., and frequently these large type rhapsodies have been elicited by perfectly negligible amounts of rainfall, less than an inch, often less than half an inch. At this writing we are waiting for some such explosion while everything is dry, very dry, and I come to the lath house side of the question. Don't wait for that rain, whatever the prophets may say, but turn the sprinkler on your lath house, all over it and wet it down two or three feet and keep it wet. Hand sprinkling is of no value for this purpose and to turn the hose loose without a sprinkler is almost as bad, for if your soil is in good lath house condition the water will run right down instead of spreading. I regard this thorough deep soaking at this period as vital to the success of the coming year, and moreover it is a kind of challenge to the Rain god. November has not been a heavy rain month, according to the short records we have.

October proved as favorable to the lath house as the preceding months of the year, and even late sown tuberous Begonia seed has made sizeable tubers. I am ashamed to write again about the care of these tubers now and during their dormant period, but almost every day I have been asked to explain and by folks who take this magazine, so here is a synopsis. Tuberous should now be matured, even if in good blooming state the object being to store energy in the tuber. The term "dried off" is wrong for they must be induced to mature by reducing moisture almost but not quite to the point of dryness. When the top comes off put the pot under a bench where the atmosphere is moist and don't take the tuber out of the dirt for some time as the skin is delicate, if only a few specimens have to handled leave them in the pots. Where larger quantities make this awkward, they can be removed from the dirt and packed away in sand, they hover, do not want to be stored in a nice dry place but in a moist atmosphere. It is decidedly helpful to roll the tubers in sulphur before packing away. Small tubers require a light degree of moisture at all times or they will dry up. This is positively the last time on this phase of this subject for this season.

It is quite evident that the so-called Narcissiflora tuberous Begonia is one of the lat-

est bloomers not only from seed, but from tuber. I am glad to say that I have it now in several colors including the much sought yellow and in good type. It is bound to become very popular but at present only a small percentage come true to type from seed, though it is possible the type may be better from the tubers later. The perfect type has the trumpet on a separate stem and the outer petals fold back, the longer the trumpet the better. One of the foremost raisers of tuberous Begonias in England wrote that they had tried Narcissiflora but had not considered it worth going on with, I did not understand this except that there is a lot of going to be done before the type is really fixed.

These hot days have given good supply of Rex pollen and possibly a lack of heat and sun has been the cause of its general scarcity, any how working on this theory I have moved some flowering Rexes to sunny quarters.

There are inquiries about the treatment of Rexes at this season. If potted they should be given quite a bit of sun, not on the pot, however, which needs to be kept cool and damp. So long as growth keeps on a reasonable amount of moisture must be provided, in the case of a few plants I believe that if the water be warmed a trifle and given in the morning it will be helpful. I expect to warm all the water used with my small Rexes directly the temperature drops below fifty. I have been told that a Rex will keep on growing as long as the temperature stays above sixty. A rest is as good for a Rex as for anything else, and a certain winter cessation of growth if not dormancy, is helpful for the next year's display. Where Rexes are planted in the ground it would be well to clear away surrounding growth as much as possible. One of the dangers to Rexes in winter comes from their old leaves and stalks which fall across other leaves and start rot. This is not a time to repot, but if it has to be done use as small a pot as possible and plenty of drainage. Overpotted specimens have a hard time now, their soil gets soggy and their feet are always cold. So many people ask whether the Rexes have a flower and seem disappointed that it is so comparatively insignificant when they see it. There is no doubt that a charming inflorescence could be secured for the Rexes. Robert George has a very beautiful flowering habit and I have a seedling with a cup shaped pink flower that that is decidedly attractive. It is doubtful whether the development of the flower would not be a corresponding loss in foliage though some of the tuberous have both flower and foliage of compelling merit.

The Luxurians from Edinburgh that was not Luxurians has bloomed, a small quite white cluster but the foliage large and dark green is attractive, the plant is the most vigorous grower of all seeded this year, makes a thick fleshy stem and branches very freely, if any reader identifies this or even thinks it possible to do so, shall be glad to hear.

Schnitzeri has not been given a proper name, the seedlings grew only a few inches and are going dormant having made small tubers, the larger ones have formed bulblets or tubelets in the axil of the leaves which would suggest a relationship with Evansiana possibly. We must wait another season but the donor of the seed is positive about its orange flower and that is a big point, it can hardly be considered a fibrous, having tubers both above and below.

The Saintpaulias have surpassed all hopes, they are still blooming as cheerfully as ever and reports of them in pots and the ground, in lath house and dwelling houses, are uniformly good. One enthusiastic lady required all of both arms, nice arms to show the size her plant has attained, it is in the ground. A warm place in the lath house is its choice apparently as some planted in complete shade have neither grown nor bloomed.

There is another South African plant that we must positively have, it is called Lachenalia and is a glorified cowslip. I have located a grower abroad but he cannot furnish seed and I don't know whether my heart is strong enough to go through the formula for importing bulbs, did I say it was bulbous, any how it is. The flowers are something like a single hyacinth and the coloring takes after Bilbergia Nutans though there are lots of named hybrids. This from the catalogue: "These lovely Cape Cowslips are of the easiest culture only requiring the protection of a cold house to bring them to perfection. The cooler they are grown provided frost does not reach them the better they are. They bloom from the end of November till April." And with that tantalizing description I leave you for this time.

THE GARDEN

(Continued from Page 5)

tected locations in groups of a single color and 4 to 6 inches deep according to soil conditions.

Narcissus or Daffodil, these old favorites are splendidly adapted for planting in borders or amongst shrubbery, where they can be left year after year to naturalize. There are many varieties, some of the best being Emperor and Empress, Sir Watkins, Von Sion and so on. Jonquils, a smaller variety of narcissi are very fragrant and fine for cut flowers.

Of the smaller bulbs Ixias, Ranunculus, Freesias, both white and colored anemones, Scillas, Muscari or Grape Hyacinths and many others are all in season for planting, and a great addition to the garden. It is getting to the time when people are wondering what is the best way to take care of their dahila tubers. Presuming that you have not been watering as heavily as earlier in the season, and that some of your dahlias are beginning to show signs of tops and foliage drying off a bit, continue to withhold the water from them until the stalks are pretty dry before attempting to dig the tubers. Digging while sap is still flowing is very injurious to the bulbs. When tops are pretty well dried off, dig tubers very carefully with a spading fork and remove them with as much dirt as possible still clinging to them, to some semi-shady place out of doors, preferably under trees or shrubbery. By this method of treatment the bulbs are partially covered with soil, and being in the semi-shade and exposed somewhat to the outside dampness and rains, they will not dry up too much, and consequently will be in fine condition for subdividing before planting time next spring and early summer.

It will soon be rose planting time again, so do not neglect to prepare your ground now by a generous application of well rotted manure spaded in to a good depth.

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FLORICULTURE AS A VOCATION

In my thirty years' connection with the florist business in all capacities, it has been my privilege to hear, observe and learn in that hard school of experience much of the ups and downs in this highly specialized branch of agriculture.

The most important of the "downs" is this one: Where will and can we look for experienced and trustworthy help, that is, of growers and working foremen upon whom the employers can depend at all times to develop the production in which he specializes?

Before the immigrant exclusion act became a law, most, or at least 70 per cent of the growers in this country in this vocation came from Europe, especially Holland, England and Germany, and even then not in sufficient numbers to supply the demand for good scientific underlaid men.

Most of the best growers have been trained in some college or government school of floriculture and horticulture, or have worked under a foreman or a superintendent who was so trained.

Ask any of the florists of any importance. There are in this country splendid institutions along strict agricultural and horticultural lines, but there was not a single institution in the whole United States until the Los Angeles School System, in cooperation with the State Board of Education, sponsored so splendidly by our Superintendent, Mrs. Susan M. Dorsey, and by private interest, who made it possible to have such an institution in the Los Angeles system.

This plant is located at the Warren G. Harding High School.

In this establishment the boys are taught the art of growing flowers, flowering plants, shrubbery and trees commercially, an art well worth being considered seriously, especially for this state of California, which, though as yet in the embryo stage as regards floriculture, has a splendid future.

This country had in 1920, 4,049 nurseries and 7,199 greenhouses, showing total sales of \$52,814,619.

The greatest number of farms or establishments was reported by California with 540 and a total receipt of nearly \$3,000,000—considerable for a state that is as yet in its infancy.

We are not expecting to make business men out of these boys, neither do we claim to send out a "finished" product, but we do claim that when a boy has gone through a four years course of training and leaves with a letter of recommendation, that boy is upon the road to success, not as a day laborer, but as a comparatively skilled worker who will be able, after a year or two of working in some establishment, to hold a job of responsibility that will pay as high as \$200 to \$300 per month.—J. W. Bosveld in Pacific Rural Press.

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VALUABLE JOURNAL IS BEING SOUGHT

Possibly somewhere in California the Hugh Cuming, who made valuable and extensive natural history collections in the Philippine Islands during the first half of the last century, is preserved as a family heirloom.

The author of this work, of which trace has been lost, returned to his home in England in 1841, and on his death the enormous private collections he had made were purchased by the British Museum. His son-in-law, Thomas L. Bridges, was a former resident of Oakland and is presumed to have inherited the journal. He died in Oakland in 1866.

It is the hope of Dean E. D. Merrill of the College of Agriculture of the University of California that this journal of Cuming's experiences in the Philippines may be rediscovered to science.

Dean Merrill, one of the foremost botanists of the world, printed in the Philippine Journal of Science for June, 1926, a series of letters from Cuming to Sir William Hooker, then Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, England. Dean Merrill spent many years in the Philippines, and became interested in Cumings work through his botanical research.

Some of the letters published by Dean Merrill indicate definitely that Cuming wrote a journal of his experiences, and that although it was presented for publication, it was, for some reason, never printed. These letters Dr. Merrill secured from Sir William Hooker's correspondence preserved at the Royal Botanic Gardens, and recently published the most interesting of them with explanatory data and notes.

Writing of Cuminnng's tree years' work, Dr. Merrill says:

"A bibliography of the papers based wholly or in part on Philippine collections made by Mr. Cuming would include many hundred titles, as the fields of general zoology, including conchology, entomology, ornithology, herpetology and mamalogy, would have to be covered, as well as that of systematic botany of both the phanerogams and the cryptogams. In practically all monographic treatments of genera and families which have been issued since 1840, so far as the numerous groups are represented in the great Cuming collections, his material is repeatedly cited and of necessity must continue to be cited because of his historical significance.

"The list of papers in botany alone in which Cumings plants are mentioned exceeds 600 titles. The description of several thousand new species of plants and animals were based on material collected by Cuming. It is interesting to write that three genera were dedicated to this remarkable collector, and that over 300 species of plants and animals bear the specific title, 'Cumingii'."

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912,

Of California Garden, published monthly at Point Loma, California, October, 1926:

State of California, County of San Diego, ss.

Before me, Clerk of Superior Court in and for the State and County aforesaid, personally appeared R. R. McLean, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Editor of the California Garden, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Calif.

Editor, R. R. McLean, San Diego, Calif.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.) San Diego Floral Association, Point Loma, Cal., Pres. M. A. Greer, 2972 First Street, San Diego, Cal.; Sec. S. A. Hill, Balboa Park, San Diego, Cal. There is no capital stock.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholders or security holders appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has not reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is. (This information is required from daily publications only.)

R. R. McLEAN.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of October, 1926.

J. B. McLEES,

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SHRUBS AND BLUE FLOWERS

Some Kinds Worth Growing

Unfortunately there are not many hardy shrubs which produce flowers of a good shade of blue. The Hydrangea—when supplied with sufficient iron—is probably the best blue-flowered shrub we have, but as its natural color is pink we must rule it out of the list.

The Blue-flowered Spiraea

This plant is botanically known as *Caryopteris mastacanthus*, and is quite hardy in the southern part of England. The best position for it is at the base of a sheltered wall, where it can be protected from cold winds. During the autumn the bushes are covered with light blue fluffy flowers, which are very attractive. It is a native of Japan, and grows to the height of about four feet. In the north of England it is best grown as a pot plant in the cool greenhouses. Fresh cuttings should be inserted each spring, to keep up a succession of young plants. They root easily if taken off with a "heel" and inserted in a sandy compost. They should be stoped twice to make bushy specimens. When grown in this way they are very effective.

The Ceanothus or Californian Lilac

Blue is the prevailing color of the shrubs belonging to this genus, which are natives of North America, and are easy to cultivate. The only disadvantage is that they are difficult to transplant. As a rule, however, they are grown in pots by nurserymen, and you should always ask for pot-grown plants when ordering. As a general rule *Ceanothus* is grown against a south wall; *dentatus*, *rigidus* and *Veitchianus* certainly do best with a little protection. One at least does well as a bush, and that is *thyrsiflorus*. A good variety of this is *Gloire de Versailles*, which produces long panicles of blue flowers during the late summer. The flowers are usually so numerous that, at a distance, they appear as a thick blue haze hanging over the plants. If you have a light, well-drained soil and a sunny position you should certainly grow the *Ceanothus*.

Veronica or Shrubby Speedwell

There are many *Veronicas* which have blue flowers. The majority of these, however, are not absolutely hardy. They may survive for many years, and then be killed during a severe winter. *Buddleia variabilis Veitchii* is one of the most attractive summer-flowering shrubs we have. It grows to a height of from 15 to 20 feet, and produces long spikes of flowers about 24 inches in length. Strictly speaking, they are not blue flowers, but violet-mauve, but seen from a distance they give a blue effect. To get fine flowers the branches should be pruned back in the spring—G. F. Gardiner, in *Popular Gardening*.

INSECT ENEMIES OF FLOWER GARDEN

The manner in which an insect feeds upon plants largely determines the insecticide that should be used, says the United States Department of Agriculture. Insects are provided either with chewing or sucking mouth parts. When plants are attacked by insects of the chewing type, such as leaf-eating beetles, grasshoppers and caterpillars, some stomach poison such as arsenate of lead spray is suitable, according to Farmers' Bulletin 1495-F, "Insect Enemies of the Flower Garden."

Since sucking insects, such as thrips, aphids, scale insects, and mealy-bugs, are not affected by stomach poisons because of the fact that they draw their food from within the plant, insecticides for them must kill by their burning action, by poisoning through the breathing apparatus, or by suffocation. One of the best sprays for this purpose is nicotine or tobacco solution.

A satisfactory spray for use against both chewing and sucking insects, combining as it does the properties of the stomach poison and the contact insecticide, may be made by adding to each gallon of arsenate of lead solution one-half ounce of soap and one teaspoonful of nicotine sulphate.

A copy of the bulletin, which gives considerable information concerning numerous insect enemies of plants, particularly those attacking flowers, may be obtained free, as long as the supply lasts, by writing the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

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